## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 2 (cancelled)

a)

3. (Currently Amended)

A method for making a hydantoin or thiohydantoin having the formula:

wherein X is oxygen or sulfur,  $R_1$  is hydrogen, alkyl, a heterocyclic ring, an aromatic ring, or a heteroaromatic ring;  $R_2$  is hydrogen, alkyl, a heterocyclic ring, an aromatic ring, or a heteroaromatic ring; said method comprising the steps of: reacting a hydrazine compound having the formula:

with an amino acid ester having the formula:

$$\underset{RO}{\overset{O}{\underset{N}{\bigvee}}} \underset{N}{\overset{H}{\underset{N}{\bigvee}}} _{R_{1}}$$

R is alkyl, carbocyclic ring, heterocyclic ring, aromatic ring, or heteroaromatic ring, to form a reaction mixture; and

- heating said reaction mixture to form said hydantoin or thiohydantoin.
- 4. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 3 wherein X is oxygen.
- 5. (Previously Presented)

  A method according to Claim 3 wherein said R<sub>1</sub> is a unit selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl, 2-furanylmethyl, 1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl, (5-methoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl)ethyl, (1*H*-Page 2 of 10

imidazol-1-ył)ethyl, (1*H*-imidazol-4-ył)ethyl, [(5-nitro-2-pyridinyl)amino]ethyl, 2-(1-piperidinyl)ethyl, (1-methyl-2-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl, (2-methyl-1-piperidinyl)propyl, 3-(1-piperidinyl)propyl, 3-(4-morphilinyl)propyl, 3-(2-oxo-1-pyrrolidinyl)propyl, (6,6-dimethylbicyclo[3.1.1]hept-3-ył)methyl, 1-(phenylmethyl)-4-piperidnyl, and 2-furanylmethyl.

- 6. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 3 wherein said amino acid ester is selected from the group consisting of a benzyl, methyl, or ethyl ester of 2-pipecoline carboxylate, proline, 4-hydroxyproline, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-3-isoquinolinecarboxylate, thiozolidine-2-carboxylate, and mixtures thereof.
- 7. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 3 wherein  $R_2$  is hydrogen or methyl.
- 8. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 3 wherein said process is conducted in the presence of a solvent selected from the group consisting of tetrahydrofuran, dimethylformamide, dioxane, methylene chloride, and mixtures thereof.
- 9. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 3 wherein step (b) is conducted at a temperature of from 60 °C to 70 °C.
- 10. (Previously Presented)

  A method according to Claim 3 wherein prior to step (a) said process comprises a step of forming said hydrazine compound having the formula:

wherein said step comprises reacting tert-butoxycarbonyl hydrazine with carbonyldiimidazole or thiocarbonyldiimidazole to form said hydrazine compound.

11. (Previously Presented)

A method according to Claim 10 wherein said hydrazine compound is used in step (a) directly without further purification.

- 12. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 3 further comprising the step of isolating said hydantoin or thiohydantoin.
- 13. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 8 wherein said process further comprises the step of removing said solvent.
- 14. (Currently Amended) A method for making a 3-aminodihydrouracil or 3-aminodihydrothiouracil having the formula:

$$R_{1}$$
 $R_{2}$ 
 $R_{2}$ 

wherein X is oxygen or sulfur,  $R_1$  is hydrogen, alkyl, a heterocyclic ring, an aromatic ring, or a heteroaromatic ring;  $R_2$  is hydrogen, alkyl, a heterocyclic ring, an aromatic ring, or a heteroaromatic ring; or  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  can be taken together to form a fused heterocyclic ring, a fused aromatic ring, or a fused heteroaromatic ring with the hydantoin or thiohydantoin ring  $R_1$  and the member carbon atom adjacent to the carbon atom containing  $R_2$  can be taken together to form a ring system; said ring system being carboxyxlic ring, heterocyclic ring, or heteroaromatic ring; said method comprising the steps of:

a) reacting a hydrazine compound having the formula:

with an amino acid ester having the formula:

$$RO$$
 $R_{2}$ 
 $R_{1}$ 
 $R_{1}$ 

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R is alkyl, carbocyclic ring, heterocyclic ring, aromatic ring, or heteroaromatic ring, to form a reaction mixture; and

- b) heating said reaction mixture to form said 3-aminodihydrouracil or 3-aminodihydrothiouracil.
- 15. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 14 wherein X is oxygen.
- 16. (Previously Presented)

  A method according to Claim 14 wherein said R<sub>1</sub> is a unit selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl, 2-furanylmethyl, 1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl, (5-methoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl)ethyl, (1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)ethyl, (1*H*-imidazol-4-yl)ethyl, [(5-nitro-2-pyridinyl)amino]ethyl, 2-(1-piperidinyl)ethyl, (1-methyl-2-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl, (2-methyl-1-piperidinyl)propyl, 3-(1-piperidinyl)propyl, 3-(4-morphilinyl)propyl, 3-(2-oxo-1-pyrrolidinyl)propyl, (6,6-dimethylbicyclo[3.1.1]hept-3-yl)methyl, 1-(phenylmethyl)-4-piperidnyl, and 2-furanylmethyl.
- 17. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 14 wherein said amino acid ester is selected from the group consisting of a benzyl, methyl, or ethyl ester of 2-pipecoline carboxylate, proline, 4-hydroxyproline, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-3-isoquinolinecarboxylate, thiozolidine-2-carboxylate, and mixtures thereof.
- 18. (Previously Presented)

  A method according to Claim 14 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen or methyl.
- 19. (Previously Presented)

  A method according to Claim 14 wherein said process is conducted in the presence of a solvent selected from the group consisting of tetrahydrofuran, dimethylformamide, dioxane, methylene chloride, and mixtures thereof.
- 20. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 19 wherein said solvent is dioxane.
- 21. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 14 wherein step (b) is conducted at a temperature of from 100 °C to 110 °C.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 3 wherein prior to step (a) said process comprises a step of forming said hydrazine compound having the formula:

wherein said step comprises reacting tert-butoxycarbonyl hydrazine with carbonyldiimidazole or thiocarbonyldiimidazole to form said hydrazine compound.

- 23. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 22 wherein said hydrazine compound is used in step (a) directly without further purification.
- 24. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 14 further comprising the step of isolating said hydantoin or thiohydantoin.
- 25. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 19 wherein said process further comprises the step of removing said solvent.
- 26. (Previously Presented)

  A method for making a hydantoin or thiohydantoin having the formula:

Box 
$$N - R_1$$
 $R_2$ 

wherein X is oxygen or sulfur,  $R_1$  is hydrogen, alkyl, a heterocyclic ring, an aromatic ring, or a heteroaromatic ring;  $R_2$  is hydrogen, alkyl, a heterocyclic ring, an aromatic ring, or a heteroaromatic ring; or  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  can be taken together to form a fused heterocyclic ring, a fused aromatic ring, or a fused heteroaromatic ring with the hydantoin or thiohydantoin ring; said method comprising the steps of:

a) reacting a hydrazine compound having the formula:

with a resin-bound amino acid ester having the formula:

wherein the symbol:



signifies a Merrifield resin, hydroxymethyl, resin, Wang resin, or PEG resin; to form a reaction mixture; and

- heating said reaction mixture to form said hydantoin or thiohydantoin.
- 27. (Currently Amended) A method for making a 3-aminodihydrouraeil or 3-aminodihydrothiouraeil having the formula:

wherein X is oxygen or sulfur,  $R_1$  is hydrogen, alkyl, a heterocyclic ring, an aromatic ring, or a heteroaromatic ring;  $R_2$  is hydrogen, alkyl, a heterocyclic ring, an aromatic ring, or a heteroaromatic ring; or  $R_1$  and  $R_2$   $R_1$  and the member carbon atom adjacent to the carbon atom containing  $R_2$  can be taken together to form a fused heterocyclic ring, a fused aromatic ring, or a fused heteroaromatic ring with the 3-aminodihydrouracil or 3-aminodihydrothiouracil ring; said method comprising the steps of:

a) reacting a hydrazine compound having the formula:

with an amino acid ester having the formula:

wherein the symbol:



signifies a Merrifield resin, hydroxymethyl, resin, Wang resin, or PEG resin; to form a reaction mixture; and

b) heating said reaction mixture to form said 3-aminodihydrouracil or 3-aminodihydrothiouracil.